

## SPORTS

**Dons make baseball finals:**

Defending champs fall short of state title by one out. **PAGE 3**

## OPINION

**Making the grade:**

Easy A's should become a notion of the past. **PAGE 7**

## STYLE

**Reflective tunes:**

Sacred Mirrors captures the groovy feel of the '70s. **PAGE 8**

## RANCHO SANTIAGO COLLEGE

## el Don

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Wednesday, June 29, 1994

## How They Fared

Proposition  
**1 A**

YES: 1,146,610 NO: 1,398,062

**Earthquake Relief Bond**

Should the state issue \$2 billion in general funds for an earthquake relief and seismic retrofit program.

Proposition  
**1 B**

YES: 1,378,831 NO: 1,385,910

**Safe Schools Bond**

Should the state provide \$1 billion to improve or build new public schools.

Proposition  
**1 C**

YES: 1,302,882 NO: 1,427,004

**Higher Education Bond**

Should the state issue \$900 million to upgrade and add-on to public college facilities.

Proposition  
**177**

YES: 1,642,453 NO: 1,063,235

**Disabled Access**

Should building owners be exempted from property taxation if construction is to improve access for disabled persons.

Proposition  
**179**

YES: 2,464,770 NO: 333,068

**Murder Punishment**

Should the state issue a sentence of 20 years to life to convicts of 2nd-degree murder committed of a drive-by shooting.

Voters reject  
new bondsDebt-weary electorate say  
'no' to 7 of 9 propositions

By Steve Castaneda  
el Don News Editor

California voters went to the voting polls June 6, with only one thing in mind. No new taxes.

By overwhelming margins, 7 out of 9 ballot measures failed in the primary election. The rejection of most measures simply means that the majority of voters would not take on added debt to an already drowning economy.

This round of proposals included bond measures that could have had a devastating impact on the state's treasury. The bond issues totaled nearly \$6 billion--the largest sum of indebtedness ever presented to voters for approval in a California election.

Voters rejected three propositions--1A, 1B, and 1C--which would have allowed the state to raise bonds worth \$3.9 billion.

Proposition 1A would have approved bond sales to raise money for earthquake relief and retrofitting. The measure authorized nearly \$2 billion in bonds to pay the state's share of

earthquake recovery costs and \$950 million of the cost of strengthening highway bridges considered vulnerable to earthquakes.

Many Proposition 1A voters faced a dilemma. If 1A passed it would have added to the state's long-term indebtedness, but since it failed it could spark a short term budget crisis.

Proposition 1B would have raised \$1 billion for school construction and modernization. Orange County voters can take credit for the defeat of 1B, which lost by 57,000 votes locally.

Proposition 1C, which would have generated \$900 million for colleges and universities, also failed. Many colleges and universities throughout California saw millions of hoped-for funds disappear. Another bond measure (K-12) is expected to be on the ballot in November. The measure plans to raise \$1.6 billion, which is intended to supplement the money raised by 1B.

Frugal voters did approve measures that

Please see **BONDS**, Page 2

Anthropology instructor  
dies of heart attack at 62

By Sheri Behbahani  
el Don News Editor

RSC department chair for Anthropology and Sociology, Fred J. Hills, died Sat., May 21, of an apparent heart attack.

Hills, 62, was rushed to St. Joseph's Hospital in Orange nearly a week before when he suffered from chest pains and had difficulty breathing toward the end of a class final exam at the Santa Ana campus.

"He was an outstanding instructor, committed to students," said Sharon Whelan, Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences. He was always using new and creative methods to inspire interest and help them master the discipline he loved." In his 26 years at RSC, Hills gained the respect of both students and associates.

"He seemed like he really cared for

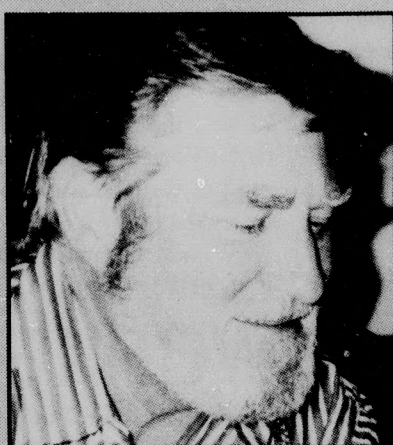
students," said Juleen Norton, a former anthropology student of Hills. "He wanted people to open up to what he was teaching. He wanted them to learn."

"As a colleague, he was generous, caring, and supportive of the people with whom he worked," said Whelan. "He was an outstanding contributor to faculty discussions at division level and campus-wide."

Family members have requested that, in lieu of flowers, donations be sent to the Frederick J. Hills Scholarship Fund which was established by the college in his memory.

"He was a good friend and we'll all miss him deeply," Whelan said.

Hills is survived by his mother, Julia, daughters Cory and Star, grandchildren Candace, Magica, and Louis Sankey, and fiancée RSC English instructor Bonita Jaros.



Fred J. Hills  
1932-1994

*"He was an outstanding instructor, committed to students...As a colleague, he was generous, caring, and supportive of the people with whom he worked."*

Sharon Whelan  
Dean of Humanities

Judge rules  
in favor of  
grounds crew

By Torsha Weathers  
el Don Staff Writer

SANTA ANA- An administrative law judge ruled that RSC District officials violated the Educational Employment Relations Act when they laid off five grounds keepers last year, and forced the college to offer the workers reinstatement, and back wages with seven percent interest and benefits.

Although all five were offered their old positions, only three ground keepers accepted reinstatement earlier this month. The three returned after several hearings on unfair labor practices according to Norman Huffaker, Labor Relations Representative for the California School Employees Association.

While college officials believed that they could lay-off the grounds keepers as a cost cutting measure, Huffaker asserted that grounds work must only be performed by qualified grounds keepers. "The education code in our opinion makes it clear that the work must be performed by classified employees and cannot be contracted out" he

Please see **WORKERS**, Page 2



## Campus / Briefly

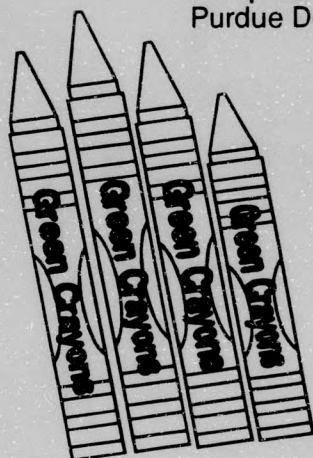
### Men Organize Against Rape

STANFORD, Calif. - (CPS) In an effort to combat rape, Matthew Mitzel, a Stanford University student has started a rape prevention program for men. "Why should women have to take self-defense classes when it isn't their responsibility to stop rape?" asked Mitzel. "It should be men learning how not to rape, rather than the women learning how not to be raped." The meetings are a forum for men to express their feelings about women, sex and relationships, Mitzel said. "The idea is not to be accusatory toward men, but to say that this is a problem that concerns us, and we need to work together to solve it," Mitzel said.



### Green Is Clean

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. - (CPS) As part of a university-wide competition sponsored by the Purdue Department of Agronomy and the Indiana



Soybean Development Council, three students invented crayons that are as Earth friendly as they are kid-friendly. The winning students were awarded \$5,000 for their invention, "Earth Colors."

The crayons are petroleum-free and composed entirely of biodegradable materials. The students - sophomores Thomas Chang, Jocelyn Wong and Don Rote - are considering a patent on their process. Ironically, Rote and Chang are colorblind. "It made it very

interesting in the lab when I asked them what they thought about the color," Wong says.

### Resource On Wheels

The Portable Center for Learning and Instruction is stationed outside the Chancellor's Office. The Center includes videotapes, literature about teaching and learning, and summaries of projects written by RSC faculty. All materials can be signed out.

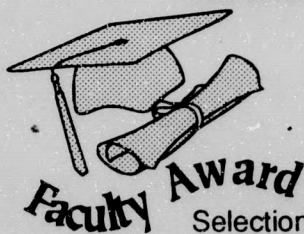
### Habla Espanol?

A conversational Spanish-language course designed to get people to speak Spanish immediately, will be offered by RSC Community Services on Tuesdays and Thursdays between July 5 and 21 from 7 to 10 p.m. The fee for this seminar is \$39. For more information, call Community Services at 564-6220.

### Womack Wins

Melinda Womack, a speech communications instructor, is the recipient of the 1994 Distinguished Faculty Award. Womack received an honorarium from the RSC Foundation and a plaque from the RSCCD Board of Trustees. She will also present a public address during the 1994-95 school year.

Selection for this prestigious honor is determined by a committee comprised of faculty members appointed by the Academic Senate, two administrators appointed by the Chancellor's Advisory Committee, one member of the Associated Student body and the recipient of the previous year's award.



-Compiled by Darlyn Lee

### Mailbox Policy

The *el Don* encourages expression of all views. Letters should be brief and to the point. All letters should include your student ID number and phone number. Letters may be edited for length and clarity. Letters to *el Don* may be delivered to room C-201, or mailed to RSC *el Don*, Mailbox, 17th at Bristol streets, Santa Ana, CA 92706.

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## Congratulations...



Juan Lopez / el Don Photo

Blanca Ybarra, a technician in the RSC Personnel Services Office, was named the 1993-94 RSC Classified Employee of the Year. Ybarra has been described as an advocate for all college employees.

### NEWS ANALYSIS

## Illegal immigration makes O.C. political hotbed for Brown, Wilson

By Steve Castaneda  
el Don News Editor

State Treasurer Kathleen Brown and incumbent Gov. Pete Wilson, California's two nominees for governor, wasted little time celebrating their primary victories.

Instead both returned to the campaign trail for what promises to be an epic struggle for the state's top political job.

Both Brown and Wilson spent much of the gubernatorial primary taking early shots at one another.

Brown, the daughter and sister of the only Democratic governors to lead the state in the last half century, was ridiculed for ignoring her Democratic counterparts by focusing on Wilson.

Wilson often focused on the issue of illegal immigration. Wil-

son advocated amending the U.S. Constitution so that children born of illegal immigrants are not automatically granted U.S. citizenship. Brown and other Democrats oppose such a change.

Orange County polls showed that Wilson fared much better with local Republicans than Brown among county Democrats.

Crime, welfare, immigration and job creation plan to be the hot topics in November.

Both have different viewpoints on all topics but agree that the federal government should assume the costs of illegal immigration into California, since it is charged with protecting the borders.

The election results brought definitive victories to Brown and Wilson, even though each had struggled during the primary.

## BONDS:

Continued from Page 1

registered their fear of crime and concern for individuals with disabilities. The only two measures with clear victory margins were Proposition 177, which would provide a property tax exemption for building improvements that aid the disabled; and Proposition 179, which would increase the minimum sentence for a second-degree murder conviction involving a drive-by shooting from 15 to 20 years.

Unlike past elections, the June propositions were decidedly low-key. There were no television advertisements. Nearly all ran conservative campaigns and some had no campaign at all.

RSC officials declined to comment on this story.

## WORKERS: cost cutting measure backfires

Continued from Page 1

said.

Huffaker represented the ground keepers at Public Employment Relations Board hearings and said he didn't see the decision going any other way.

"Our position was, by laying off the grounds keepers they (the district) committed what is called an unfair labor practice. The Higher Educational Employment Relations Act, that sets up collective bargaining, states that employers cannot act unilaterally. They must bargain or negotiate decisions to lay off or contract out," he said.

When the grounds keepers were laid off, the RSC campus was contracted out to Landscape West, according to Robert Brown, Director of Maintenance and Operations.

The grounds were contracted out for several reasons. Contractors are listed to pay for the supplies, use less shop space on campus and require less liability exposure of the district according to Liz Harris, RSC Personnel Director.

"We anticipated savings by contracting out the grounds" she said.

The district knew that there was a possibility the ground keepers would prevail according to Harris.

"We will probably take it (back wages) out of reserves. It's not the type of thing we would increase the student fees to pay for. We don't yet know exactly how much it's going to be but we anticipate it will be less than \$100,000," she said.

The ground keepers went through hard times this past year but are pleased to return to the college, according to Huffaker.

"They are delighted to be back. They are enjoying their work and feeling secure in their position" he said.

RSC grounds keepers declined to comment on this story.



## State Baseball *Dons 1994* Championships

# Cypress 'bags' Dons

■ **Controversial call at first base in ninth may have cost team a chance at back-to-back state championships**

By Steve Castaneda  
el Don News Editor

In a wild two game series, Monday, May 30, the Dons let the 1994 California Community College Baseball Championship slip away from them and right into the hands of the Cypress College Chargers.

The Dons, last year's state champions, were playing for a chance at back-to-back state titles. A feat that had not been accomplished since Cerritos College won three straight championships from 1973-75.

Chargers coach, Scott Pickler, said he had never seen his team more determined to win.

"We struggled at first. Losing a game in the earlier round really woke us up. These men have shown great poise throughout the tournament, fighting their way back to make it here. We are really excited to be here," said Pickler.

The Dons were confident as they took the field for what would turn out to be a long day.

RSC Head Coach, Don Sneddon, was calm as he watched his starting pitcher, Kirk Irvine, warm up for what hoped to be the Dons last game.

**"They beat us five out of six times... They did a good job. They had good pitching and good defense, something we didn't have. We had our chances to win. In all it was a good year and I'm real proud of my men. It is just frustrating right now, we battled back so hard to make it here."**

Don Sneddon  
Dons Head Coach

throughout the game.

Good defensive plays kept the game close. Heading into the bottom of the ninth, the Dons were down to their final three outs. The championship was up for grabs at this point.

Sneddon told his men to stand strong in the batter's box and wait for their pitch.

After walking the lead-off hitter and giving up a base hit the Chargers seemed to tense up. With two men on, Jamie Estrada, got a base hit up the middle scoring a run.

Pickler quickly replaced his starting pitcher with league MVP, Andy Gonzales.

"He (Gonzales) throws a lot of heat, but we can hit off of him," said RSC pitcher Micah Stovall.

Gonzales gave up two quick hits and left the bases loaded with only one out. The Dons were on the brink of making their biggest comeback of the tournament.

A base hit by Toby Sanchez brought two runs in and tied the game 3-3.

Please see, **FINALS**, Page 5

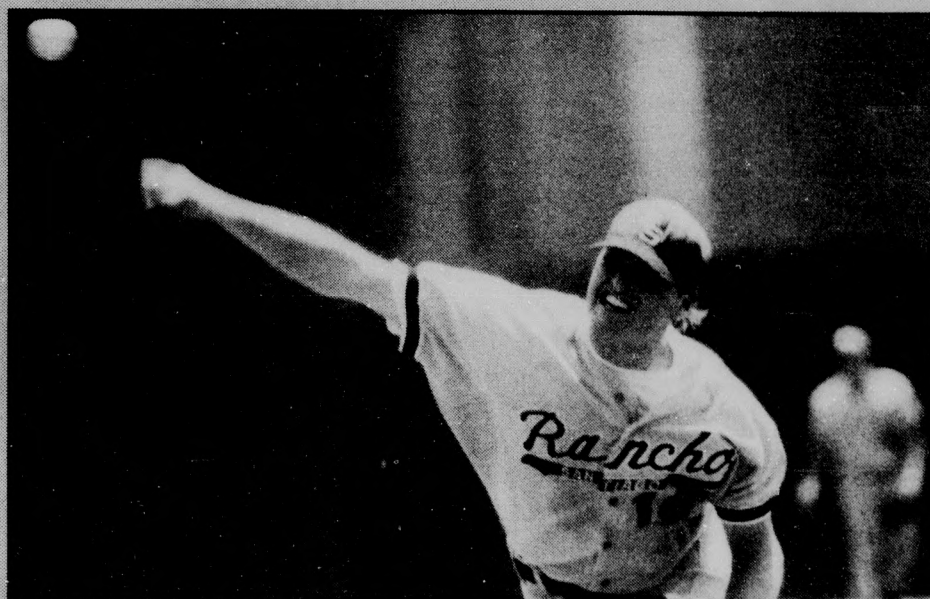
### High five...



(ABOVE) Dons' pitcher Kirk Irvine celebrates after RSC makes their ninth inning comeback in the first game against Cypress.

(RIGHT) Freshman Brian Martineau pitches the Dons to a 16-3 semifinal victory over Lassen College.

PHOTOS by  
E.J. Campbell



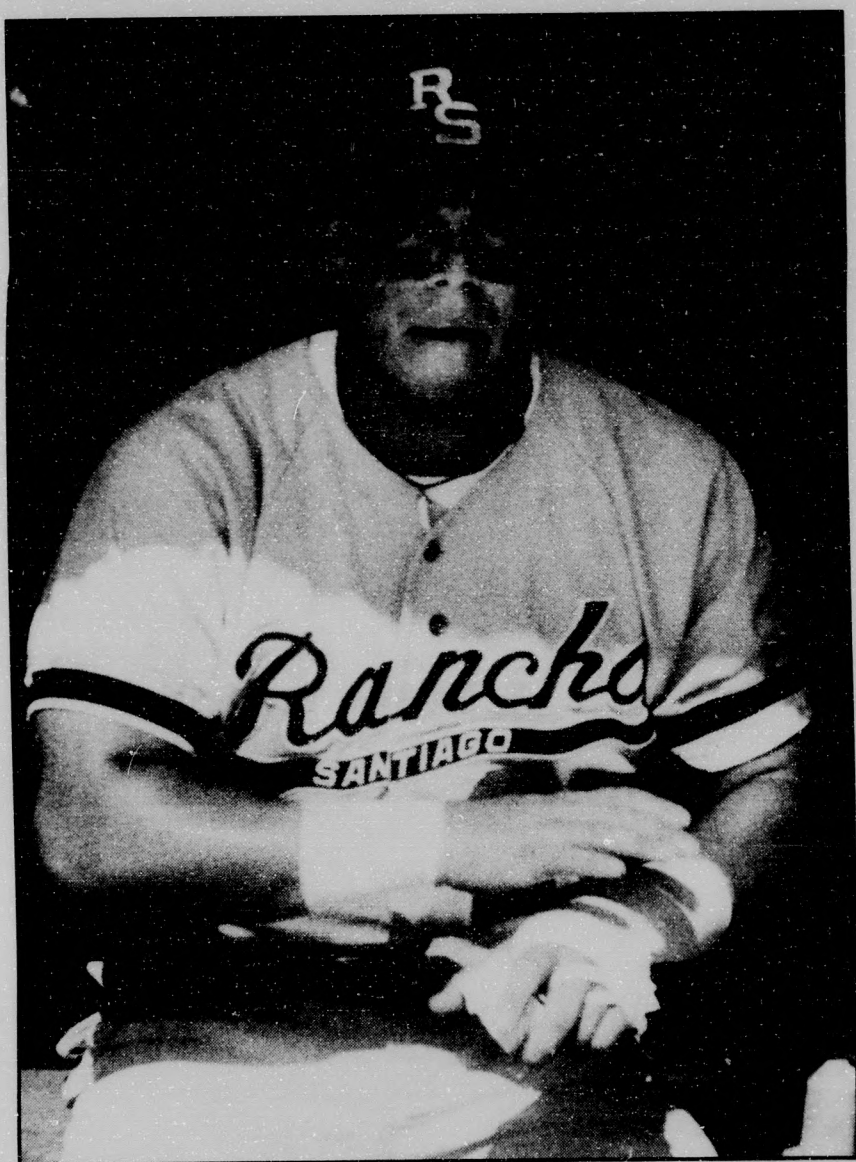




(LEFT) RSC catcher Raul Gonzales (10) makes contact with the ball in a game versus Cypress.

(MIDDLE) Dons' rightfielder Toby Sanchez wraps some tape around his arm during a game at the state finals.

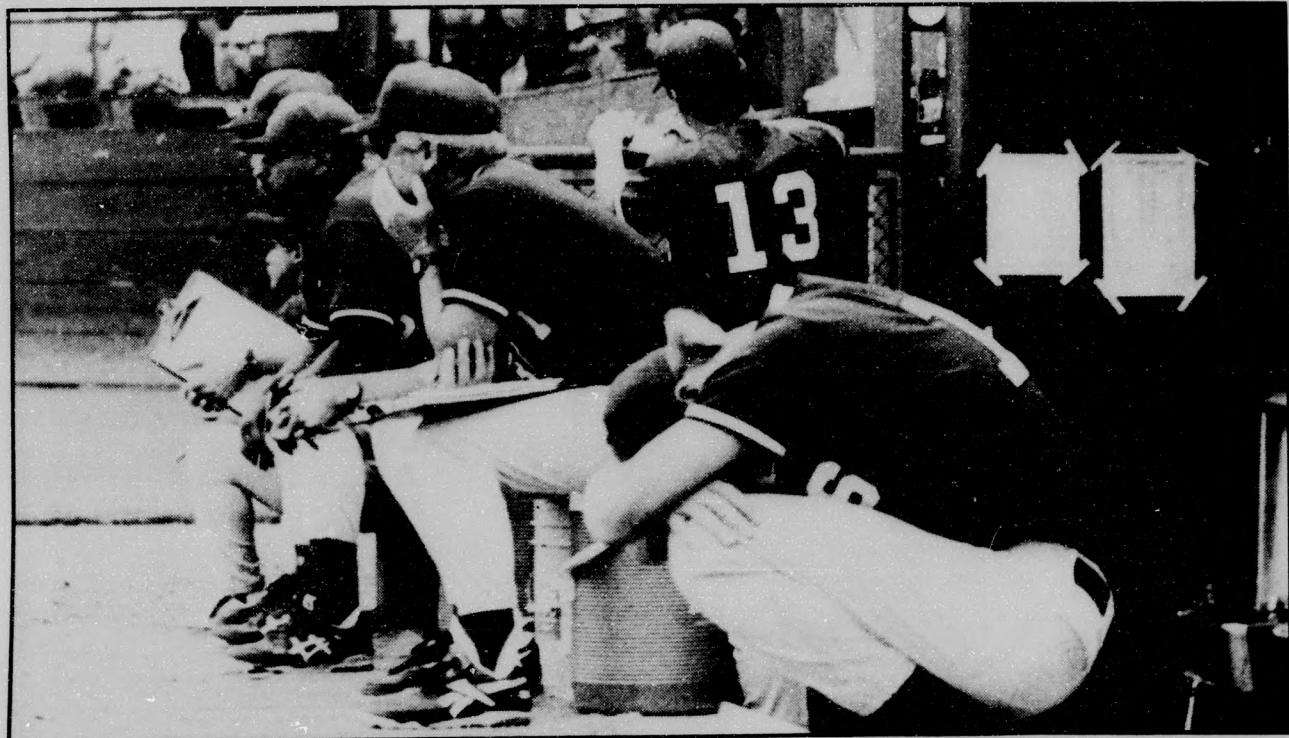
PHOTOS by  
Allan G.  
Vargas



# thrill of VICTORY

May 28-30, 1994

# agony of DEFEAT

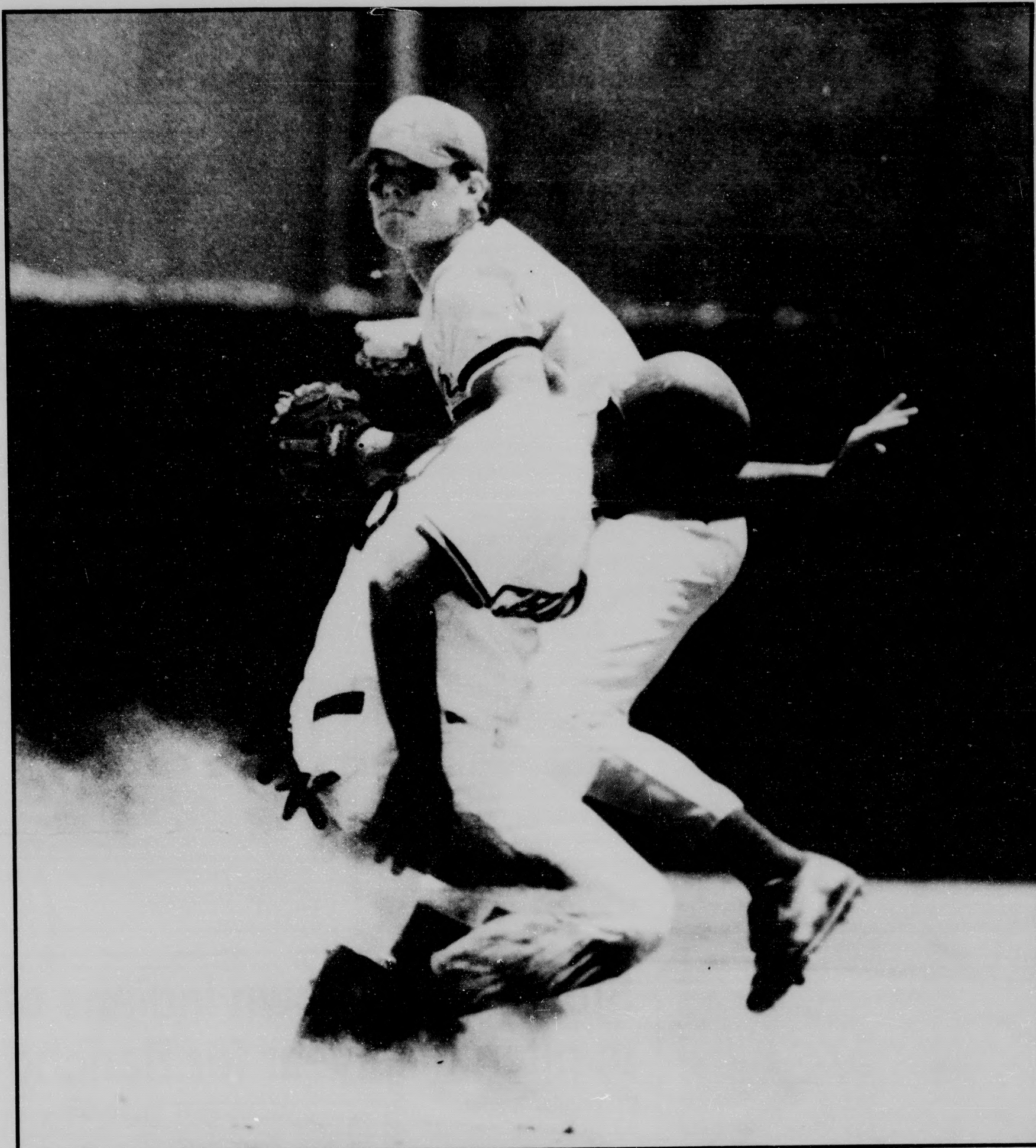


(RIGHT) Brian Martineau (16) tries to cool off in the dugout, by placing an ice cold towel over his head during Sunday's game.

(LEFT) The RSC dugout reflects on what might have been as they lose the state championships game to Cypress 5-3.







## TURN TWO

Second baseman Jason Minici tries for the double play as the Dons prevailed over Chabot 8-5 to move into the second round of the 1994 state baseball championships versus Lassen College.

## State Championships

# FINALS: game two was over before it began

Continued from Page 3

The next batter, Keith Cowley, was hit by a pitch and sent to first.

With the bases loaded David Mallas came to the plate.

The Dons tried a squeeze play, but the Chargers countered with a pitch out and tagged runner Jason Minici out at home.

With runners at second and third, and two outs, Mallas hit a ground ball back to the pitcher. Gonzales picked it up and threw it home to hopefully get out Sanchez. The winning run scored as the plate umpire called Sanchez safe at home. Mallas was still running full speed to first when Cypress catcher David Trentine noticed he had a chance for a play. Mallas slid head first into first with so much force he tore the bag out of the ground. The first base umpire called Mallas out as the first baseman reached to make the catch. The winning run was

voided by the call at first.

RSC players ran onto the field shouting, "How can he be out when he's holding the bag?"

Sneddon ran over and argued with the first base umpire who had made several questionable calls.

To the Dons disbelief, the play stood.

The game now went into extra innings. In the top of the 11th, Dons pitcher, Randy Wilson, came in to relieve Irvine and struck out the side.

In the top of the 14th, things started coming apart for the Dons.

A wild pitch by Wilson gave the Chargers the lead again. Going into the bottom of the 14th, the score was 5-3.

The Dons were down to their final three outs. This time it would have a different ending.

With one runner on base, and two out, things got exciting. Sanchez, the Dons' power hitter blasted a monster shot to deep left center field which would have been a home run at many professional stadiums, was caught just short of the spacious 410 wall for the final out.

The Dons lost a heartbreaker to the Chargers 5-3.

When it came time to play the second game, it looked like they didn't recover.

With the score 7-0 in the bottom of the first, the Dons luck had seemed to run out. RSC starting pitcher Micah Stovall was relieved by Ethan Wyckoff after working just a third of an inning.

In the bottom of the first, the Dons scored two runs and made it a 7-2 ball game. Wyckoff pitched strongly throughout the game. The Dons defense struggled letting a

run score off another error. The score going into the top of the fourth inning was 8-2.

The Dons showed that they weren't going to roll over and die. In the bottom of the fifth the Dons rallied to score three runs to make the score 8-5, but it wasn't going to be enough.

The seven run first inning ended up killing the Dons chances at a second title. The Cypress Chargers won the 1994 State Championship game 8-5.

Sneddon said that Cypress deserved the title.

"They beat us five out of six times," said Sneddon. "They did a good job. They had good pitching and good defense, something we didn't have. We had our chances to win. In all it was a good year and I'm real proud of my men. It is just frustrating right now, we battled back so hard to make it here."



# State Baseball *Dons 1994* Championships

## Focus On FUTURE STARS

### Mariners draft home run hitter Sanchez as catching prospect

By Jennifer Tingler  
el Don Sports Editor

Toby Sanchez, 19, was drafted by the Seattle Mariners in the 72nd round as a catcher.

The Mariners' knew Sanchez would not sign so they did a Draft Follow. Seattle owns Sanchez's rights for the 1995-96 Season. "They want to see me at my full potential before signing me," said Sanchez.

Catching is a new position for Sanchez, but he is working hard to learn it. He is working with Mariners' Coach Mike Mayne for his catching every week.

"I'm glad I was drafted as a catcher. It's the fastest way into the Major Leagues," said Sanchez.

If and when Sanchez

**"I'm glad I was drafted as a catcher. It's the fastest way into the Major Leagues."**

signs with the Mariners' he will be playing for a rookie league in Washington or Arizona.

Toby Sanchez grew up playing sports. His father and cousin are both football coaches.

"Ever since I was born, I've had a ball in my hand," said Sanchez.

As a student at Mater Dei High School, Sanchez was a

three sport player. He played football, basketball and baseball.

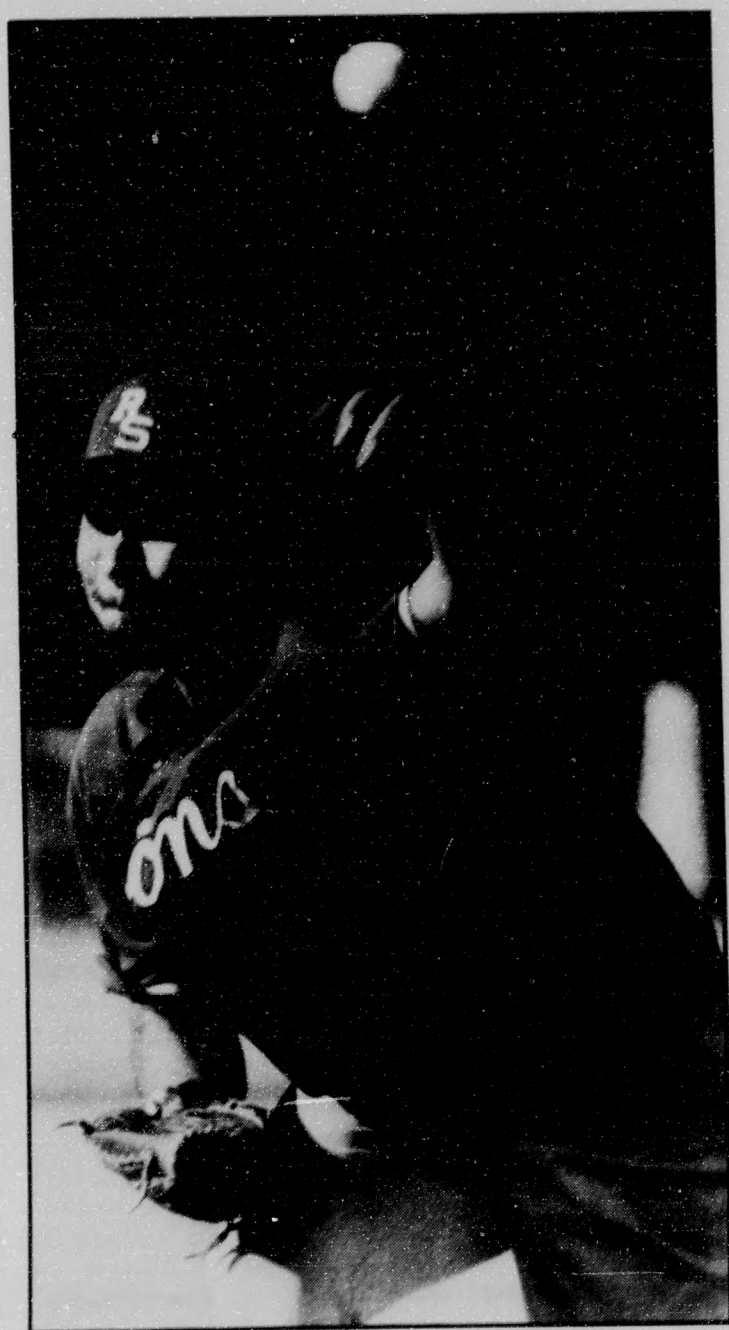
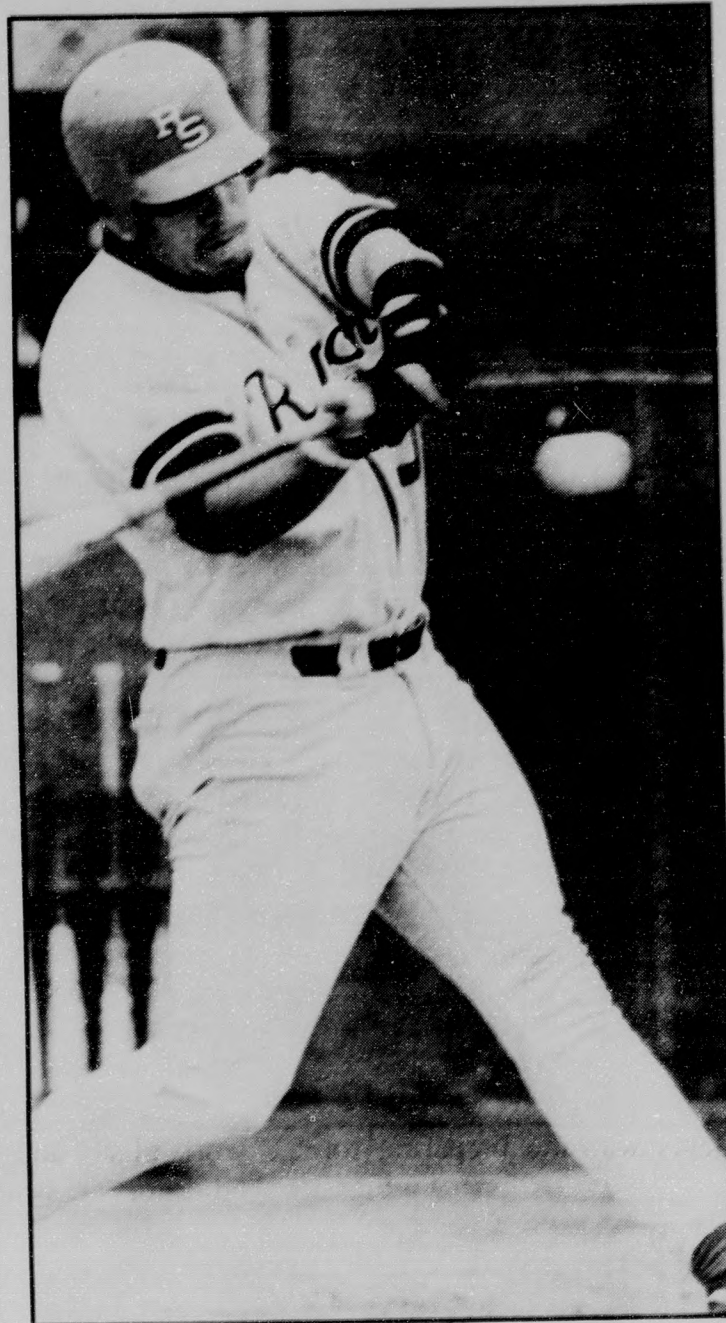
Sanchez has been coaching for the past four years. He coaches junior sports. At Mater Dei High School he coached Freshman Football and Freshman Basketball at Foothill High School.

When he's not out on the field playing ball, Sanchez enjoys many activities.

"Spending time with my family, friends and girlfriend is what matters most," he said. If Sanchez isn't with them, you can find him at a night club, either dancing or working as a bouncer.

Sanchez would like to continue his education at California State Fullerton or Arizona State if he's not playing baseball.

"My parents would like me to get a piece of paper saying I went to school," said Sanchez.



### Stovall turns down Indians offer to pitch next year for Rancho

By Jennifer Tingler  
el Don Sports Editor

Dons' starting pitcher Micah Stovall was picked up by the Cleveland Indians during the 22nd round of the 1994 Major League Baseball College Draft.

Stovall, a 19-year-old student, chose not to sign with the Indians, instead he decided to continue his education at RSC. If Stovall had signed with the Indians, he would have played for Cleveland's Rookie League team in Burlington, North Carolina, in a three month summer season.

However, the Indians still retain the rights to Stovall until next year.

"I want to go to school because I know I'll be worth more to a professional team because I have an education," said Stovall.

The Indians were not the first team to draft Stovall.

**"I want to go to school because I know I'll be worth more to a professional team because I have an education..."**

After graduating from Cypress High School in 1992, he was drafted by the St. Louis Cardinals. He decided not to sign with St. Louis and registered for school at Cypress Junior College.

Stovall began playing baseball at the age of four. When he was 10, he began to pitch. Stovall, now 19, has a lot of professional teams

taking another look at him.

"I transferred to RSC because I didn't like the treatment I got at Cypress," said Stovall.

"When I talked to Dons' Head Coach Don Sneddon, he was straightforward and told me that RSC hadn't had a good left-handed pitcher in a long time and for me not to expect much playing time," said Stovall.

When he's not out on the playing field, he's usually bodyboarding, bike riding, and being with his girlfriend. He doesn't spend all his time having fun though.

"I work two days a week at my father's real estate company," Stovall said.

Stovall says he will continue to pitch for the Dons throughout next season. "I want to be there when we try for the state title again," Stovall said.



## Staff Editorials

### Okay kiddies, time to get back to basics

If American college students think undeserved grades are going to help them in their collegiate career, they are fooling themselves. Substandard grading has become a bane and dismay to professors and employers alike. As high schoolers, many students were accustomed to teachers who crumbled under the pressures of parents and a state policy which continues to pass incompetent students to the next grade level.

These guidelines hardly instill the love of learning among pupils.

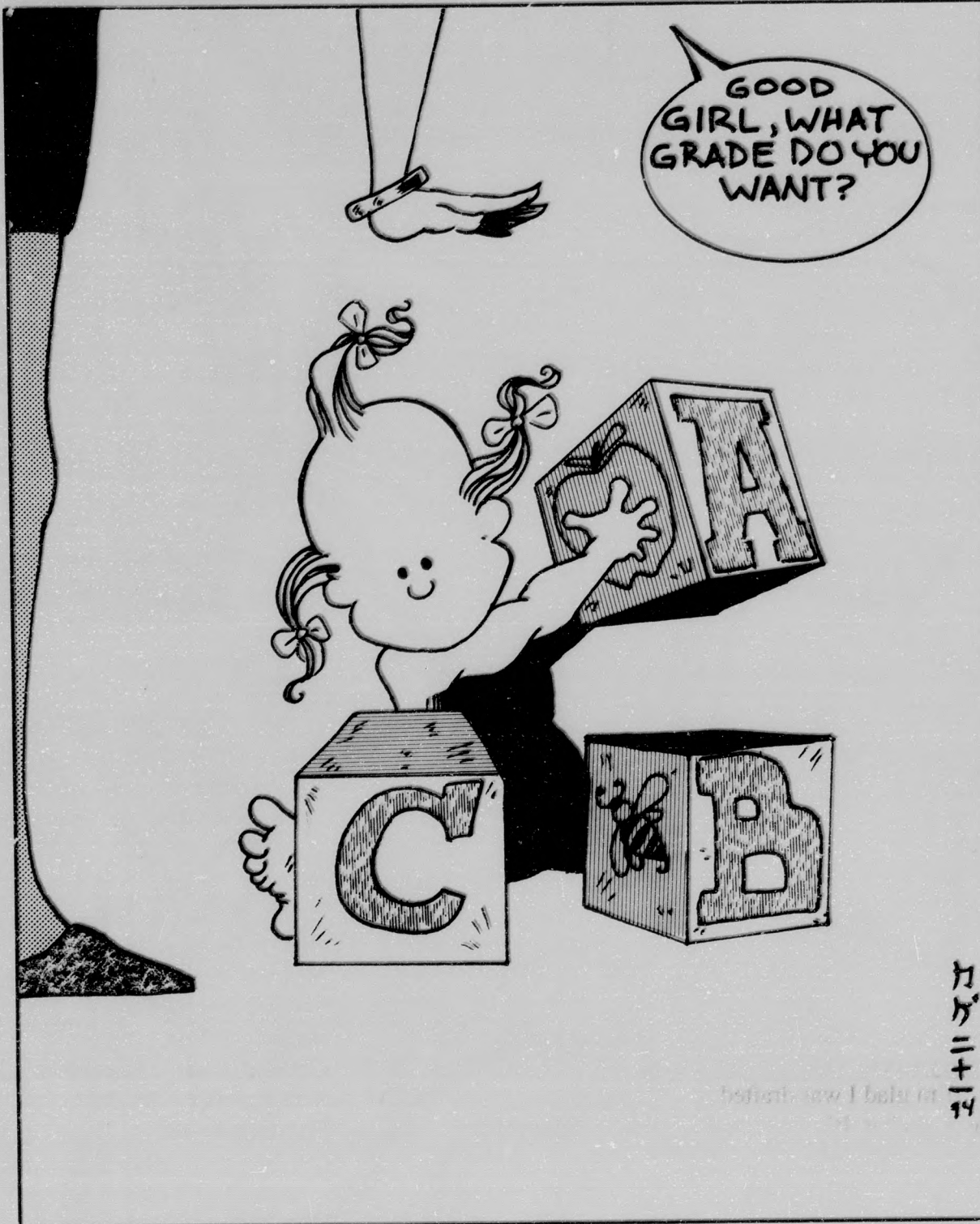
A recent study reported by the Los Angeles Times shows that students today are aware that they don't have to study nearly as hard as their older counterparts did, since professors can sometimes be manipulated to grade on a lighter scale. Yet these collegians are the first to complain when remanded to remedial courses.

For this reason, we hope that RSC will encourage its instructors to pass only those students who truly understand the material they were expected to learn and send the weaker students back to class for further instruction. Rejection is not a pill that is easily swallowed, but the long-term benefits of retraining far outweigh the short-term buzz of an inflated grade.

As a community college we should provide employers with undergraduates equipped with the skills which will make them an asset to the company for which they work.

No one benefits from grade inflation. It does not help those students who are preparing for the work place, and it undermines the skills that professional educators are being paid to provide.

We hope that as students return to college, they return to learn, not to get an easy ride.



## Staff Editorials

### Hey ump, how many fingers am I holding up?

The finals of the 1994 Community College Baseball Championships held Monday, May 30, at Cerritos College were a total frustration to the Dons.

It took the Cypress Chargers two games to win the 1994 state championship, when in fact the title was stolen away from the Dons in the first game.

A terrible call by the first base umpire in the bottom of the ninth inning cost the Dons their second straight state title.

We really wonder what the umpire was looking at when he made the controversial call at first base.

Obviously not at the advancing runner or the position of the first baseman. It was obvious that the first baseman was nowhere near the base to



make the play. His foot was clearly off the bag when he caught the ball for the final out of the inning, since the bag was in the arms of the player sliding by.

Maybe the dust from the

slide got into the umpire's eyes. Maybe he was preoccupied by the Dons runner on third scoring the winning run at home.

Or, maybe the umpire just didn't want the game to end

at that time.

Whatever the reason, we think it was a terrible call. Umpires should call the plays as they see them.

Obviously this ump did not.

## Staff Editorials

### Instructor will be missed by staff and students

Rancho Santiago was recently saddened by the loss of a kind and devoted instructor, Fred Hills. Mr. Hills, who served as department chair for Anthropology and Sociology, died May 21, after battling heart problems for nearly a week at St. Joseph's Hospital in Orange.

Those of us who were fortunate enough to have had Mr. Hills as an instructor know that he was a notable asset to the college. His knowledge of the subjects he taught were a sign of the dedication he had for his work. His willingness to help students learn showed his commitment not only to the school, but to his colleagues and pupils as well.

We will miss his spirit and his dedication.



## Chit Chat...

**News and Views to Amuse:** An open discussion group is held each Thurs. at 7:30 p.m. at Cyrano's Coffee House in Orange. Topics range from social/political issues to parenting. Mediator John Beringer cools things off when tempers flare. Kick back, open your mind and enjoy some verbal dessert with your java. **Free.** (714)289-1031.

**It's Miller Time:** The Coach House in San Juan Capistrano welcomes comedian, political satirist and "Saturday Night Live" veteran, Dennis Miller, on Aug. 26 - 27. Hey babe, this guy is one hip cat who blasts the bureaucrats regularly on his new HBO series. Launching laughs faster than Bush can launch scuds, this show is a must-see and a mind blower for \$25. That's the news and I'm outta here.

## Sound Bites...

**Blue Monday:** Attention all jazz junkies. An open blues jam is held each Monday at 8 p.m. at the Fullerton Hofbrau. This gig is open to the general public so arm yourself with your musical weapon and get ready to battle. Drink specials and more.

**Folk You:** The Indigo Girls - and I don't mean chicks in jeans - are back on the road. Their unique brand of folk rock includes soulful harmonies and insightful lyrics. See them at the Universal Amphitheater on Aug. 26-27. Tickets go on sale July 10 at the box office and Ticketmaster. Prices range from \$28-\$40.

## Free Stuff...

**A Sound Experiment:** Free music is featured every Fri. - Sun. at The Lab in Costa Mesa. Showcasing new bands each weekend in the courtyard, The Lab attracts a funky crowd who slum in alternative hipness at this new "anti-mall." The place has artsy shops including a Tower Record Alternative store and strolling fortune tellers. It's a scene just to be seen. Showtimes are: Fri. 7-10 p.m.; Sat. 1-4 p.m. and 7-10 p.m.; Sun. 1-4 p.m.

# etc...



**TUNED IN**  
Sacred Mirrors unplugged the negativity of a generation by creating a positive lyrical style.

# Sacred Mirrors

## acoustic willows



By Gina Reidinger  
el Don Style Editor

Shattering the myth that the mislabeled "Generation X" crowd worships only the whiny grunge gods of late - Sacred Mirrors, a local acoustic duo - proves that positive song lyrics and musical integrity still have a prayer. Yes! The teenage angst movement is dying.

Comprised of singer-songwriters Ron Pane and Chris Churn, Sacred Mirrors is captivating the county's coffee houses with incredible two-part harmonizing and profound lyrics reminiscent of Lennon and McCartney.

Influenced by Buffalo Springfield, the group's sound captures the groovy feel of yesteryear. You got it - good rock and roll can never die.

The artists, who write all of their own music, showcase their vocal ingenuity by together carrying a tune with an energy and conviction rarely found in today's performers.

Although reflecting a musical style of the

'60s and '70s, the duo describe themselves as alternative.

"Through our music, we try to encompass a certain universality with our audience. People are our inspiration and we try to reflect a positive view of life," Pane said.

Pane added that music fans need to avoid creating generational spokespersons who are put on the musical pedestal.

"It takes away from what everyone together could accomplish as a whole," he said.

"Some carry music too far and go off the edge; we don't want to go there."

Perhaps their music reflects this idea best. The song "Hear" states: Hear the sound of their crying. The world is dying.

Thank God some musicians still hold life sacred.

Sacred Mirrors tours local colleges and is spotlighted regularly at local venues such as Dietrich Coffee, Alta Coffee, Hennessey's and The Lab.



MUSICAL DESSERT

Gina Reidinger \ el Don Photo

Acoustic rockers, Chris Churn (left) and Ron Pane (right), captivated crowds at Pacific Coffee with their natural driving harmonies.

Reflecting on their  
own experiences,  
a local band plugs  
into the positive side  
of music

